



Assistive Technology

Resource Guide

Matching Assistive Technology with Student Goals



Inspirational Vision

For more than 25 years, HumanWare's inspirational vision has resulted in a range of highly intuitive and intelligent solutions that empower people with visual impairment and learning disabilities by giving them the independence to participate effectively within a sighted world.

Humanized Solutions

HumanWare is a pioneer in mastering rapid advancements in digital technology to create and deliver humanized solutions that help people with blindness, low vision, and learning disabilities. Our highly advanced technology will never lose its human touch.



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Educational Resources



Assistive technology helps students with visual impairments or those with learning disabilities increase their access to the general curriculum and improve their academic performance. It's critical to choose the appropriate technologies and tools that meet students' specific needs.

Helping You Determine Technology Needs for Your Students

HumanWare can assist your school district in evaluating the effectiveness of your current technology, and in updating and planning your future technology needs.

HumanWare is the global leader in providing assistive technology within the educational sector for students with visual impairments and those with learning disabilities.

Our experienced, knowledgeable team will work with your district staff to identify classroom tasks that can be supported with the appropriate technology.

A Full Range of Innovative Products

HumanWare offers a complete range of innovative products that empower students with visual impairments and those with learning disabilities. For over 25 years, our products have been designed (and in many cases, to go) with the students. HumanWare products give students the independence to compete effectively with peers and feel connected – to be a vital part of the global information age in which we live.

HumanWare Programs and Services Support Education Efforts

Our Braille Literacy Scholarship Programs

Mountbatten Learning System Award – A program to encourage braille learning for early childhood and elementary grades. Offered for children ages 3 through 8. Parents and teachers tell us why braille literacy will be key to the students' success.

BrailleNote Apex Award – A program to award students who productively and creatively use the BrailleNote Apex in the classroom for reading, writing, math and research. For ages 8 through 18.

For more information about these programs, visit: www.humanware.com/braille_literacy

Webinars and Professional Development

HumanWare offers a comprehensive schedule of free webinars provided by product managers and industry experts who are leaders in the assistive technology field.

Technical Support

Free support for HumanWare products is available toll free from 8:00 a.m. EST to 4:00 p.m. PST. The tech support team is comprised of highly trained personnel who are also users of the products. The team is also responsible for providing direct feedback to our Research and Development teams.

On-Site Workshops and Training Seminars

HumanWare offers free on-site training and workshops provided by qualified product specialists who use the technology in their daily lives, including their employment. Resources and free downloads are available at www.humanware.com.

Presentations and Events

To view a schedule of HumanWare presentations and events, visit: www.humanware.com/seminars.

One-on-One Consultation

Call today to schedule your free technology consultation from HumanWare. An experienced representative will be available to discuss your specific needs.



Key Questions to Ask When Purchasing Assistive Technology

- Does the student have a visual impairment or learning disabilities?
- Is the student an auditory or tactile braille learner or both?
- How much vision does the student have?
- Can the student use magnification?
- Does the student have adequate motor skills?
- Does he/she have additional impairments?
- How long will the technology meet the student's educational needs?
- What type of initial and ongoing support and training will be needed?



Low Vision Devices to Assist in Reading Print

- Increases independence in accessing small size print
- Enhances the reading experience by decreasing visual fatigue
- Improves reading rate and efficiency
- Encourages writing through visual confirmation



DUO



DESKTOP



TABLET

ProDIGI

The groundbreaking, touch-controlled 2-in-1 Personal Vision Assistant

Product Features
Diamond Edge Text™: allows you to magnify words to any size, without any degradation
Full Pages Capture in seconds for easy navigation with fingers
Various reading modes: column, single line, page, adjustable reading speed, read aloud
ProDIGI DUO allows you to remove the Tablet from of the docking station for mobile use

Student Benefits
Easy access to print documents reduces the need to produce large print
Increased comprehension of reading thru visual and audio support
Increases in-class focus while attracting little attention to student
Provides a portable library of study materials
Freedom to read and capture printed material anytime, anywhere
Reduce eye fatigue by reading documents in your preferred reading modes, with perfect Diamond Edge text!

Low Vision Devices to Assist in Reading Print

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SmartView Synergy
SmartView Synergy PI/SI

Desktop magnifier displaying a high quality image

Product Features
Large LCD monitor and x/y reading tray to view a variety of print formats
Programmable high contrast colors and magnification settings
Options for video in, and PC split screen to create customized workstation

Student Benefits
Reduces the need to produce large print copies
Allows for multiple users to individualize settings
Progressive image technology allows for faster reading

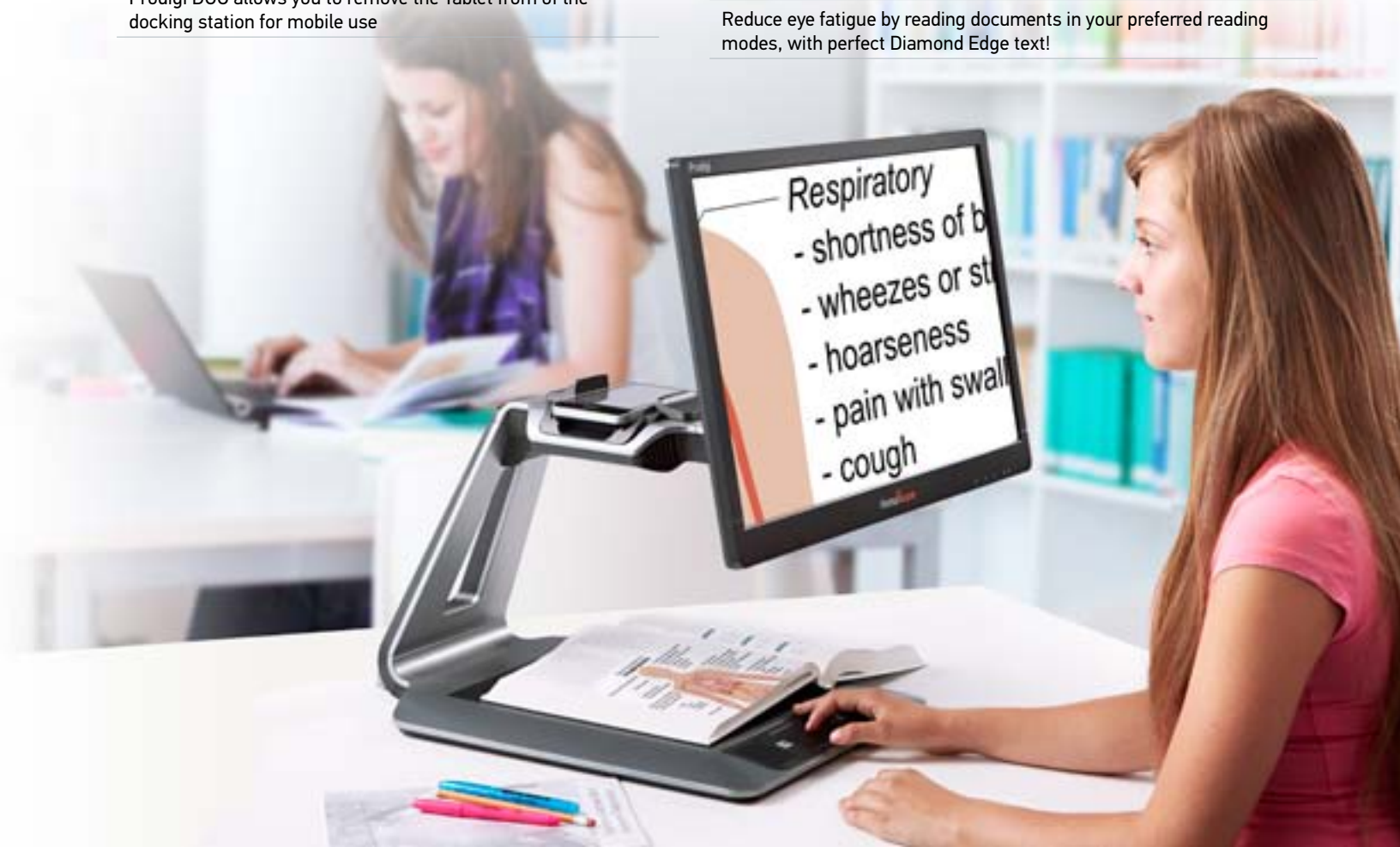


SmartView 360

Integrated camera and monitor for classroom viewing near and far

Product Features
Camera rotates 360° offering desktop, distance and self view modes
Portable device with integrated LCD monitor
Setting memory for each of the 3 viewing modes
16 enhanced contrast modes
Optional carrying case available

Student Benefits
Multi viewing modes allow students to successfully view entire classroom
View PC or iPad apps on the integrated, enlarged screen
Increase classroom productivity
Increase classroom live participation
Allows for multiple users to individualize settings
Requires minimal desk space



Digital Book Players That Support Audio Textbooks and Reading Materials

- Benefits learners whose learning channel is auditory
- Improves comprehension through built-in study tools
- Encourages listening to books for recreation and leisure
- Provides access to DAISY, NIMAS, BRF, MP3, PDF, DOCX and ePub



Victor Reader Stream
New Generation

Portable Digital Book Player and Voice Recorder

Product Features
Plays educational content from Bookshare, Learning Ally, Web Braille, MP3, DAISY, NIMAS, BRF and text files
Create book marks and voice notes
Record voice notes and lectures
Small and portable with 15 hours of playback
Wireless Internet Radio to access news and special broadcasts
Student Benefits
Flexibility to listen to books anywhere, anytime
Extensive selection of reading material to match students interest and reading level
Develops improved study skills and classroom interaction
Improves note taking and listening skills



Victor Reader Stratus

Desktop Digital Talking Book Players

Product Features
Plays educational content from Bookshare, Learning Ally, Web Braille, MP3, DAISY, NIMAS, BRF and text files
Variable speed playback and auto-pitch compensation
High contrast and large buttons for ease of use
New high quality speech and louder volume
Compact and sturdy
Student Benefits
Rugged for classroom use
Easy CD insertion
Adjustable playback speed
Allows access for low vision or motor challenged students
Ideal for group classroom instruction

GPS Devices That Support Independent Travel Skills

- Improves orientation
- Increases confidence during mobility
- Achieves better understanding of immediate surroundings
- Encourages participation in school and social activities



BrailleNote GPS

GPS software and receiver to assist in travel

Product Features
Speech and braille output
Ability to create routes
EZ and XL Modes
Virtual exploration mode (XL Mode)
Spoken headings, points of interest and street names
Student Benefits
Braille readers travel with less distractions in noisy environments
Different modes introduce GPS tasks step by step
Students can prepare and study routes prior to travel (XL Mode)
Students become more familiar with neighborhoods and cities
Students travel with more confidence



Trekker Breeze

All-in-one GPS device to maximize independence

Product Features
Clear speech output
Nine key user interface
Create routes while walking with instructor
Enter exact street address to create a pedestrian or vehicle route
Student Benefits
Useful for low vision, non-braille readers and other disabilities
Easy to learn
Reinforces mobility instruction
Students travel with confidence and assurance from auditory confirmation

Teaching Listening Skills Can Improve Student Achievement

Listening strategy is a listening, summarizing and note-taking strategy that will help you turn your students into critical listeners who actively participate in the listening process.
www.learningthroughlistening.org

Bookshare™ Accessible Books and Periodicals for Readers with Print Disabilities

- Bookshare is free for all U.S. students with qualifying disabilities
- Bookshare dramatically increases the accessibility of books
- Bookshare offers a searchable library of more than 220,000 titles
- Bookshare offers an extensive online library for readers of all ages

www.bookshare.org

GARRETT TURNER: age 10, Kansas

“Garrett loves his BrailleNote Apex, his Trekker Breeze, and his Furby. He uses his Apex to write school assignments and to print them out for his teachers. His Trekker Breeze was the focal point for a fourth grade science experiment in which he measured the accuracy of estimated distance from all cardinal directions to a central GPS landmark he had set with the device.”



Braille Literacy and Teaching Braille Math

- Essential Tools for establishing a Foundation in Braille Literacy and Teaching Braille Math

The BrailleNote Apex can be used to teach the Nemeth Braille Code and support students’ math instruction and performance.

The Nemeth Solution from Start to Finish:

With the BrailleNote Apex, students will be able to:

- Receive multimodal audio and tactile feedback to ensure they are typing the correct math symbols
- Independently use KeySoft’s Symbol Selector to look up Nemeth symbols and abbreviations
- Connect a monitor to provide a visual output for a sighted teacher while completing assignments
- Learn the Nemeth Braille code using the interactive Nemeth Tutorial
- Create assignments in Nemeth Braille within the BrailleNote Apex’s word processor
- Print or email a math assignment as a readable Microsoft document for the classroom teacher

Learn Nemeth Braille with an Interactive Tutorial

The Nemeth Braille code can be a complex learning experience. HumanWare partnered with Northern Illinois University to design the “Nemeth Tutorial” software.

This tool provides a completely interactive method for teaching students to read and write Nemeth Braille.

Divided into 18 lessons, each lesson consists of the following to ensure their full understanding of the Nemeth code.

- Explanation and examples of essential math concepts
- Activities for reading and comprehending nemeth math
- Interactive writing tasks to confirm student’s accuracy
- Proof reading exercises to support learning



Braille Devices That Support Reading, Writing and Math

- Enhances literacy skills through:
 - Improvement in writing by using efficient editing tools
 - Accuracy in spelling and expanded use of vocabulary
- Provides access to the general curriculum:
 - Access to electronic textbooks, worksheets, supplementary support materials
 - Access to research and downloadable books on the Internet



Braille Support for iOS Devices

iOS connectivity with the BrailleNote Apex and Brailliant Displays

Product Features

Connect via Bluetooth to popular mainstream idevices (iPads, Ipod Touch, iPhones)

Apex and Brailliant support full keyboard emulation with braille input

Access to variety of educational and content rich applications and resources

Student Benefits

Allows integrating both specialized technology tools and popular mainstream devices used by other sighted students

Braille input improves accuracy and efficiency over touch screen gestures

Improves participation and inclusion in mainstream classroom activities

Brailliant Displays

Electronic braille display for mainstream computer applications and iOS devices

Product Features

Various character size displays to best represent the screen

Instant real time braille output

Easy interface with portable and desktop computers

Wireless bluetooth and USB connectivity

Bluetooth connectivity and compatible with popular iDevices

Compatible with MAC and PC Screen Readers (JAWS, WindowEyes, Dolphin, NVDA, Serotech)

Student Benefits

Better understanding of applications, complex screen formats and layout

Improves spelling and effective editing

Lightweight and easy to transport

Dependable wireless connectivity

iDevice compatibility provides braille output and input for increased efficiency and accuracy when reading and writing

For ressources:
www.humanware.com/brailliant_ios

BrailleNote Apex

Productivity tool for word processing, book reader, scientific calculator, Web browser, email

Product Features

One piece note taker with speech and braille output

Powerful word processor with spell check, dictionary and thesaurus

Learn, write, print nemeth math documents

Interactive Nemeth math tutorial

Built-in book reader for reading BRF, Daisy, and NIMAS books from Bookshare, Learning Ally and Web Braille

Blind-friendly internet browser (non-graphical)

Bluetooth connectivity and compatible with popular iDevices

Student Benefits

Multi-sensory (tactile and auditory) for reading, writing and math

Improves writing, spelling and vocabulary

Supports learning and writing the braille math code

Provides access to educational curriculum in the students preferred media – speech and braille

Efficient access to resources and research on the internet

iDevice compatibility provides braille output and input for increased efficiency and accuracy when reading and writing

For ressources:
www.humanware.com/brailnote_ios

Braille Devices That Support Math, Science and Social Studies

- Develops and improves tactile reading skills
- Enhances understanding of math and science with tactile images
- Supports math instruction with a talking graphing calculator
- Provides braille instruction for early learners



PIAF
(Pictures in a Flash)

Creates raised line, tactile drawing, shapes and simple diagrams

Product Features

- Simple method to create basic shapes and graphics
- Tactile material can be drawn and customized for classroom topics
- Students can draw or learn to print

Student Benefits

- Supports learning math and science
- Provides introduction to skills for reading tactile images
- Promotes self expression and spatial concepts



ViewPlus Embosser

Produce hard copies of braille, Nemeth math and tactile graphics with print and braille labeling

Product Features

- Translates text into braille
- Tiger Software translates math into Nemeth braille
- Produces tactile graphics
- Portable and light weight

Student Benefits

- Easy to create classroom material in braille from MS Word
- Quickly produce braille math by sighted teachers
- Increases understanding of science and math concepts
- Compatible with BrailleNote Apex and can be used in the classroom or home



Audio Graphing Calculator

Accessible audio graphing calculator

Product Features

- Graphs are represented in audio tones
- Spoken menus and keyboard commands
- Graphs are produced in an audio format or a hard copy in braille

Student Benefits

- Provides access to understanding math and science graphs
- Accessible to students with visual impairments
- Improves comprehension through multi-sensory approach (tactile and auditory)



Mountbatten Writer And Learning System

Multi-purpose electronic braille writer to facilitate braille instruction

Product Features

- Ergonomic design for very light touch or one handed mode
- Auditory feedback when keys are pressed (words and characters)
- Mimic visual display for interaction with sighted teachers and peers
- Music mode, Calculator, APH Patterns (Learning System only)
- Connect a PC keyboard (included) for creating contracted braille

Student Benefits

- Aids in writing braille for young children with weak finger strength
- Supports multi-sensory learning with combined speech and braille
- Allows visual monitoring of braille information being written
- Reinforces the understanding of page format, centering and vertical math
- Instant communication and interaction between the student, teachers and peers

Braille Devices That Support Braille Instruction for Early Learner

- Provides both auditory and tactile feedback during the learning process
- Provides a wireless, convenient visual display on an iPad or iPhone for teachers and parents to monitor student’s progress
- Improves two way communication by allowing sighted peers to interact with student

The Mountbatten Learning System and MBMimic reinforce braille instruction and the interaction of early braille students in the mainstream classroom.

With MB Mimic communiation application, teachers can instruct students using:

The Whiteboard

A screen opens an edit window and an on screen keyboard. Every word that is typed will be embossed after the space bar is pressed on the screen keyboard. Similarly, every word gets brailled on the Mountbatten and displayed on the MBMimic app screen once the student presses the space key on the Mountbatten.

Benefit

- Sighted teachers and peers not familiar with braille can provide classroom material instantly to the braille reader
- Students receive real time instruction along with their classmates
- Sighted staff and peers can view the braille students writing, spelling and grammar
- All students can participate in a group activity and easily share their notes

The Chat

This feature displays a large white field, an edit box, and the screen keyboard. The text is entered into the edit box but it will not be embossed until the Enter key or the OK button is tapped. When the student brailles their entry, text will be displayed only after the New Line key is pressed on the Brailier.

Benefit

- Students improve sentence structure
- Students learn by taking turns and practicing together
- Motivates all students to share their thoughts in writing
- Breaks the communication barrier between braille and print

Active Users

- Organize your students’ work
- Store your students’ work in the cloud
- Share it with their families via email
- Transfer text files between the MBMimic and various text editing apps



Peggy Abernathy
- MISD Teacher of the Visually Impaired - Mckinney, Texas

“ I know this device (MountBatten Learning System) is going to provide my student with the best tool for developing his reading and writing skills in thesame manner as his sighted peers.”

Scanning & Reading Devices That Make Print Material Accessible

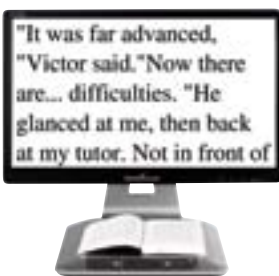
- Allows quick and timely access to print material
- Elevates learning by keeping pace with the general curriculum
- Provides audio-assisted reading as an added support
- Improves auditory skillsProdigi Desktop



Prodigi Duo

The groundbreaking, touch-controlled 2-in-1 Personal Vision Assistant

Product Features
Diamond Edge TextTM: allows you to magnify words to any size, without any degradation
Full Pages Capture in seconds for easy navigation with fingers
Various reading modes: column, single line, page, adjustable reading speed, read aloud
Prodigi DUO allows you to removed the Tablet from of the docking station for mobile use
Student Benefits
Easy access to print documents reduces the need to produce large print
Increased comprehension of reading thru visual and audio support
Increases in-class focus while attracting little attention to student
Provides a portable library of study materials
Freedom to read and capture printed material anytime, anywhere
Reduce eye fatigue by reading documents in your preferred reading modes, with perfect Diamond Edge text!



Prodigi Desktop

The world’s most affordable digital magnifier

Product Features
Diamond Edge TextTM: allows you to magnify words to any size, without any degradation
Full Pages Capture in seconds for easy navigation with fingers
Various reading modes: column, single line, page, adjustable reading speed, read aloud
Student Benefits
Easy access to print documents reduces the need to produce large print
Increased comprehension of reading thru visual and audio support
Increases in-class focus while attracting little attention to student
Provides a library of study materials
Read and captured printed material easily
Reduce eye fatigue by reading documents in your preferred reading modes, with perfect Diamond Edge text!



Kurzweil 1000

Scan and read software for PC

Product Features
Read printed text with magnification, speech or with optional braille output
Scanned material can be transferred to portable devices
Scanned material can be produced in large print or braille
Student Benefits
Useful for low vision and blind readers
Allows for students to read on a device of their choice
Information is provided in preferred format

Success Stories

DAISY RUSSELL: age 16, Massachusetts

Her Apex holds electronic versions of all her textbooks as well as many others to satisfy her voracious appetite for literature. It also holds her schedule for activities outside school, such as her Wednesday afternoon job, where she tutors elementary age children. Since age six, when she first began reading stories in braille, Daisy knew she wanted to be a writer. In keeping with that aspiration, she also uses her Apex outside work and play to craft stories and poems from her rich imagination.

CHRISTOPHER NUSBAUM: age 15, Maryland

Chris says he does everything on his Apex! On a typical school morning, he checks his email from teachers and downloads the day’s class work. In biology, he reads from his Apex the steps to complete work in a biology lab. In U.S. history, he opens the Apex file containing the script for a mock trial in which he is a witness. Like most teenagers, he is a fan of Twitter, Facebook, email and online research — and he does it all with his Apex.

EMILY PENNINGTON: age 19, Ohio

Emily Pennington got her first BrailleNote when she was in the third grade. Today, as a second year accounting major at Xavier University, she says her life is on her Apex. She uses her Apex to write class notes, complete tests, and read all of her textbooks electronically. Her Apex holds hundreds of books downloaded from Bookshare. In addition to her textbooks, she might kick back at any time to listen or read Robert Jordan’s Wheel of Time or other favorite fantasy series.

SHERI ALBERS: age 50, Ohio

When she earned her first degree, a B.S. in Finance from Miami University 30 years ago, she recalls struggling to handwrite notes she was frequently unable to decipher. Now in her second term en route to an Associate’s degree in addiction counseling, she marvels at the freedom and confidence her Apex and Victor Stream give her in the classroom. She records every lecture on the Victor Stream while typing notes on the Apex. Later, she listens to the lecture again, filling in areas she missed the first time. All her textbooks are loaded onto her Apex.

For more information about HumanWare products,
or to find a distributor in your area, please contact us

U.S.A. 1 800 722-3393 **CANADA** 1 888 723-7273 **or** info@humanware.com

www.humanware.com

Additional resources

Tutorials: www.humanware.com/brailnote_tutorials

Workshops: www.humanware.com/workshops

HumanwareTM
see things. differently.